



Professor Frank Debenham

The degree of Doctor of Science (*honoris causa*) was conferred upon Professor Frank Debenham, sometime Professor of Geography at Cambridge University, at a special meeting of Senate held on 15 April 1959 in the Great Hall.

Report

Professor Debenham was a Geologist with the Scott Antarctic Expedition, 1910 -13, and was a Major in the British Army in World War 1 from 1914 to 1919. He joined the staff of the Department of Geography, University of Cambridge in 1923 as a Lecturer and was appointed a Professor in 1930, which position he held until 1949. Professor Debenham was well known as the Founder Director of the Scott Polar Research Institute, and the Editor of the Polar Record. He is best known as Head of the School of Geography at the University of Cambridge which has been regarded by all geographers as the leading School of Geography in Great Britain. Professor Debenham's writings on maps and surveys are universally known and his publication of *Cartographic Exercises* is still regarded as one of the best publications on this subject for use in university Geography departments. In more recent years he has applied his energies towards the study of water resources of Central Africa, and has published a number of papers on this subject.

From the Senate Report to the NSW Government for 1959